

REMARKS

As shown in the foregoing AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS, the claims have been amended to more clearly point out the subject matter for which protection is sought.

Claims 1-3 and 5-72 are left unchanged.

Claim 4 is amended to eliminate the alternative recitation and the subject matter of new claim 73 is drawn to the alternative recitation removed from claim 4.

It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added, since the amendment merely clarifies the claim recitations.

Entry of the AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS is respectfully requested in the next Office communication.

ELECTION

The applicant hereby elects Part I, subset b as recited in claims 1 and 4, Part II, subset a as recited in claims 1 and 6, Part III, subset a as recited in claims 1, 8, 12, 15, and 16, Part IV, subset a as recited in claims 1, 10, 12, and 16, and Part V, subset a as recited in claims 1, 12, 13, 15, and 16 for prosecution on the merits.

The applicant hereby reserves all rights to the non-elected subject matter.

If any issues remain that may be resolved by a telephone or facsimile communication with the applicant's attorney, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the numbers shown below.

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC  
625 Slaters Lane, Fourth Floor  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-1176  
Phone: (703) 683-0500  
Facsimile: (703) 683-1080

Date: April 30, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

  
PATRICK M. BUECHNER  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 57,504